United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

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DH/1661
8 June 1994

WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Bosnian Government and Bosnian Serbs sign one-month cease-fire agreement in Geneva; Special Representative Akashi welcomes first step towards complete cessation of hostilities.

+ Secretary-General attends ceremony in Geneva marking first payments made by United Nations Compensation Commission; meets with Special Coordinator for occupied territories.

+ Special Envoy Brahimi arrives in Yemen at head of United Nations fact-finding mission; asks Government to help evaluate humanitarian situation; 250,000 displaced persons reported in need of relief.

+ High Commisioner for Human Rights meets with Special Rapporteur on Rwanda to discuss upcoming fact-finding and investigative mission.

+ Julius Nyerere tells World Hearings on Development that United Nations must redress North-South imbalance; development agenda should be financed by international tax.

+ Secretary-General, in report to Security Council, says success of UNASOG shows how disputes can be settled when parties cooperate fully with United Nations.

+ Subcommittee on Small Territories approves draft resolution on tackling drug problems in nine Non-Self-Governing Territories.

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Bosnian Government and Bosnian Serb delegations meeting in Geneva today signed an interim agremeent for a one-month cease-fire, according to a United Nations spokesman. The parties agreed to refrain from offensive military activities for one month beginning Friday. Defensive activities by either side were not covered by the agreement.

Special Representative Yasushi Akashi, who convened the Geneva talks, described today's agreement as a modest but significant step towards a

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complete cessation of hostilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The parties agreed to resume talks under the auspices of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Sarajevo, probably late next week, the spokesman said.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today attended a ceremony in Geneva marking the first payments made by the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC) to settle claims resulting from Iraq's invasion and occupation of Kuwait in 1990. The Commission paid more than $2.7 million to 600 individuals and families to settle claims for death and serious injuries. Some 5,000 claims of that nature have been presented to the Commission, and it is hoped that most of them will be settled this year.

The Secretary-General said the ceremony was an important milestone in the implementation of Security Council resolution 687 (1991), which established the cease-fire after the Gulf War. The international community had shown that it was standing by the victims of the Iraqi invasion, and that it was committed to international law. He called on Member States to live up to their financial responsibilities to the Commission, which has insufficient funds to meet the 5,000 claims presented.

Earlier today, the Secretary-General met with Terje Roed Larsen, who was recently appointed Special Coordinator in the occupied territories. Mr. Larsen left for the territories immediately after the meeting. He will set up headquarters in Gaza, and will serve as a focal point for United Nations economic, social and other activities. The Secretary-General also met with Special Representative Yasushi Akashi, and congratulated him on the one-month cease-fire agreement signed in Geneva today by the Bosnian Government and the Bosnian Serbs.

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Special Envoy Lakhdar Brahimi, Head of the United Nations fact-finding mission to Yemen, arrived in that country today and appealed to all parties there to abide by the Security Council's call for an immediate cease-fire. He also expressed concern at the deteriorating humanitarian conditions in and around Aden.

Mr. Brahimi held informal talks with Foreign Minister Ahmed Basendwah, and asked the Yemeni Government to assist the United Nations agencies in Sana'a in evaluating the humanitarian situation. He was scheduled to meet with Prime Minister Mohamed Al-Attar this afternoon, and with President Ali Abdallah Saleh tomorrow.

In a related development, Serge Telle of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs will convene a meeting in Sana'a tomorrow to assess humanitarian needs in Yemen. The meeting will be attended by United Nations agencies, donor countries and Government officials. Preliminary reports indicate that there are 250,000 displaced persons eligible for assistance, and that figure is expected to rise

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The United Nations High Commisioner for Human Rights, Jose Ayala Lasso, held consultations in Geneva yesterday with the Special Rapporteur on Rwanda, Rene Degni Segui of Côte d'Ivoire. The Economic and Social Council approved the Special Rapporteur's mandate on Monday, and he is expected to leave for Rwanda on 10 June.

The High Commissioner emphasized that the Special Rapporteur had an unusually broad mandate, including fact-finding and investigation. For the first time, a rapporteur had been asked to look into the root causes of a situation and determine responsibilities for events. He pledged that he would give Mr. Degni Segui total and constant support, and said he would be in close contact with Special Representative Jacques-Roger Booh-Booh and the Force Commander of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR), Major-General Romeo Dallaire.

The Special Rapporteur will be accompanied on his mission by: Bacre Waly Ndiaye (Senegal), Special Rapporteur on summary and arbitrary executions; Nigel Rodley, Special Rapporteur on torture; and three staff members from the Centre for Human Rights. He will visit several locations in Rwanda, under UNAMIR protection, and will visit neighbouring countries where Rwandan refugees are located. He is expected to return to Geneva on 18 or 19 June, and to prepare a preliminary report to the Commission on Human Rights by 24 June.

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A United Nations agenda for development must recognize the North-South divide, and redress its imbalance, Julius Nyerere told the World Hearings on Development yesterday. The former President of Tanzania and current Chairman of the South Centre said that resources for development should be considered a right, and that the agenda should be financed by the international equivalent of national taxation.

Mr. Nyerere said an action-oriented agenda for development must bring the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank under United Nations control. If those powerful institutions continued to adhere to the principle of "one dollar, one vote", developing countries would not be able to put people first. He called for more democracy in the United Nations, and for a reconsideration of the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. It was absurd for the Organization to urge democracy on Member States while abdicating its responsibilities in favour of the Powers of the North, which exercised effective control over international finance and trade institutions, he concluded.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has said that the achievements of the United Nations Aouzou Strip Observer Group (UNASOG) show how successfully disputes can be settled when parties cooperate fully with the Organization.

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UNASOG was set up by Security Council resolution 915 (1994) to oversee Libya's withdrawal from the Aouzou Strip last month. The Strip had been the subject of a territorial dispute between Libya and Chad, but the two countries submitted the matter to the International Court of Justice.

In a report to the Security Council dated 6 June, the Secretary-General said UNASOG had successfully completed the task assigned to it and might now be considered terminated. He thanked the Governments of Libya and Chad for cooperating with the Observer Group.

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The Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance yesterday recommended that the Special Committee on Decolonization call on administering Powers to counter problems related to drug trafficking in Non-Self-Governing Territories. It made that recommendation in a draft resolution on nine Territories -- American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands -- approved without a vote at the conclusion of its 1994 session.

The consolidated draft resolution has a section on general aspects of the administration of the Territories and another on specific conditions in them. On the specific conditions in the British Virgin Islands and Montserrat, the Special Committee would urge their administering Power to continue its assistance to prevent drug trafficking and money laundering. It would call on the administering Power of the Cayman Islands to take measures, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to counter problems relating to money laundering, smuggling of funds and other crimes, as well as drug trafficking.

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9 June 1994

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council extends UNAMIR mandate until 9 December; endorses immediate deployment of two additional battalions, equiping of Ghanaian contingent; demands immediate cease-fire, end of systematic killings.

+ Secretary-General in report to Security Council recommends UNFICYP mandate be extended until 31 December; says Force's continued presence on Cyprus indispensable for achieving Council's objectives.

+ Secretary-General addresses special International Labour Conference in Geneva marking ILO's seventy-fifth anniversary; says ILO has helped promote rights of workers around the world.

+ The Government of Yemen announces cease-fire effective 6 p.m. local time today, following request by Special Envoy Brahimi.

+ UNAMIR oversees fourth round of talks between Rwandan Government and RPF; accusations of massacres made by both parties.

+ Industrialized countries must bear costs of globalization World Hearings on Development told; prematurely established democracies often powerless to maintain social stability and restructure their economies

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The Security Council last night extended the expanded mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR), originally scheduled to expire on 29 July, until 9 December 1994. It also endorsed the immediate deployment of two additional battalions, along with the equipping and redeployment of a previously committed Ghanaian battalion. In unanimously adopting resolution 925 (1994), the Council endorsed the Secretary-General's proposals to flexibly implement all three phases of the expanded mandate it had approved in a previous resolution last month. The first phase called for bringing to full strength and deploying a mechanized infantry battalion. The second and third phases called for the deployment of two additional battalions.

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In addition to endorsing the deployment of the first two phases, the Council approved continued preparations for deployment of the two battalions envisaged for phase three. It also urged Member States to respond promptly to the Secretary-General's request for resources, including logistical support capability. The Council reaffirmed that UNAMIR would continue to act as intermediary between the parties in seeking a cease-fire and contribute to the security of displaced persons, refugees and civilians at risk. It would also establish secure humanitarian areas, and provide security and support for humanitarian operations.

The Council demanded that the parties in Rwanda agree to a cease-fire, end the systematic killings, and make serious efforts to achieve a political reconciliation. It also demanded that they stop inciting violence and ethnic hatred, respect the United Nations and other organizations and refrain from intimidating peace-keeping or humanitarian personnel. It asked the Secretary-General to report to the Council on UNAMIR's progress no later than 9 August and 9 October.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has recommended that the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) be extended until 31 December 1994. In a report to the Security Council dated 7 June, the Secretary-General said that the Force's continued presence on the island was indispensable to achieve the Security Council's objectives. He noted that the extension would be sixteen days longer than the normal six month renewal period, in order to facilitate administrative and financial procedures at UNFICYP.

The Secretary-General said he regretted that because of the position taken by the Turkish Forces, discussions between UNFICYP and the respective military authorities on further unmanning of the buffer zone, and the use of weapons there had not taken place. For the same reason, there were still difficulties regarding access to the fenced area of Varosha. The Secretary-General said he was gravely concerned with the lack of progress in those areas, and in efforts to reduce the number of troops on the island. He was also concerned at the recent lack of political will shown towards reaching an agreement on the implementation of the package of confidence-building measures.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today attended a special session of the International Labour Conference in Geneva to mark the seventy-fifth anniversary of the International Labour Organization (ILO). The Secretary-General told delegates that the world was experiencing an unprecedented social crisis with poverty and unemployment growing. For 75 years the ILO had promoted the rights of workers around the world. It had helped establish international labour standards in areas such as freedom of association, pay, working hours and conditions, compensation for job-related accidents, social security, paid leave and industrial safety.

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The Secretary-General said he believed the development imperative was as much a United Nations priority as the imperative of peace. That is why he had begun an indepth reform of the United Nations in the economic fields as soon as he took office. Peace and development were not separate or conflicting goals, they were inseparable, he stressed.

Earlier today, the Secretary-General met with Yves Berthelot, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. Later, he received representives of the Arab Labour Bureau, including Labour Ministers from Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Syria, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Tunisia and Palestine. Workers' representatives from Jordan, Kuwait and the Arab Organization for Employees also called on the Secretary-General.

The Secetary-General attended a luncheon hosted by the Director-General of the ILO and later met with the Representative of Chile, Juan Somavia, who is also President of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on Social Development. Yesterday, the Secretary-General was briefed by the Administrator of the UN Development Programme (UNDP), James Gustave Speth, on the UNDP Executive Board's annual session. They also discussed the coordination of aid to the occupied territories.

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The Government of Yemen has announced a cease-fire effective at 6 p.m. local time today, following a request by Special Envoy Lakhdar Brahimi who is leading a United Nations fact-finding mission to Yemen. Earlier today, Mr. Brahimi met President Ali Abdallah Saleh and Foreign Minister Ahmed Basendwah. Before meeting with the President, Mr. Brahimi conferred with a group of six Government Ministers and they had wide ranging discussions on the implementation of Security Council Resolution 924 (1994), which calls for an immediate cease-fire in Yemen.

Mr. Brahimi was scheduled to meet this afternoon with members of the governing coalition and parliamentarians, and is expected to leave Sana'a tomorrow to continue his fact-finding mission and contact other concerned parties.

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A fourth round of talks was held today between the Rwandan Government and the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) at United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) headquarters in Kigali. A spokesman for the Organization said the talks lasted for four hours in a "rather tense atmosphere". Discussions centered on charges and counter-charges of massacres, with the RPF blaming the Government militia for the killing of over 60 people earlier this week in a suburb southwest of Kigali. Another round of talks has been scheduled for Saturday morning.

Meanwhile, RPF radio reported a massacre was carried out by Patriotic Front elements in a refugee camp in the town of Kabgaye. The Archbishop of Kigali, the Bishop of Kabgaye and ten priests were killed, the spokesman

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said. According to the radio reports, the RPF said those responsible for the unauthorized attack would be brought to trial. Earlier today, the United Nations headquarters in Kigali sustained a direct hit by a rocket-propelled grenade.

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Industrialized countries must bear the costs of globalization, the World Hearings on Development was told yesterday. The Minister of Economic Planning of the Republic of Korea told delegates the relationship between third world prosperity and global stability was critical. However, so far the globalization had failed to benefit countries in transition to a market economy. It was often necessary for those countries to maintain their non-democratic Governments in order to achieve an effective transition to a market economy, he said. Prematurely established democratic Governments were often powerless to maintain social stability and restructure their economic systems. Capitalist countries must not create the illusion that the overhaul of institutions would automatically bring about a free and competitive economy, he added.

Paul Kennedy, Director of International Security Studies at Yale University, said the forces for change were too intense and swift to overcome. The United Nations had a critical role to play in the challenge to find peaceful ways for achieving change. Unless a decent and responsible agenda for development was put in place, there would be even greater turbulance, he added.

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FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ IAEA Board of Governors finds Democratic People's Republic of Korea has widened its non-compliance with safeguards agreement; says Agency prevented from verifying whether nuclear material diverted in past.

+ One month cease-fire agreement between Bosnian Government and Bosnian Serbs takes effect in the former Yugoslavia at noon today; UNPROFOR makes arrangements for prisoner exchange.

+ Secretary-General arrives in Tunis for OAU Summit; says continued cooperation between the United Nations and OAU needed to settle crisis in Rwanda and other disputes in Africa.

+ Special Envoy Brahimi leaves for Saudi Arabia to continue fact-finding mission on conflict in Yemen; reiterates need for humanitarian aid.

+ Secretary-General condemns hijacking of an Operation Lifeline Sudan barge and seizure of United Nations personnel in Jonglei, Sudan.

+ Experts at World Hearings on Development call for streamlining of the Economic and Social Council, reinvention of United Nations Development Programme and establishment of development council.

+ UNHCR steps up preparations to cope with increasing number of Rwandan refugees pouring into Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire and Burundi; Agency caring for over one million people in region.

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The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has found that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) was continuing to widen its non-compliance with safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. In a resolution adopted today, the IAEA's Board of Governors said the DPRK's actions had prevented the Agency from verifying the history of the core at its five megawatt reactor, and from ascertaining whether nuclear material there had been diverted in recent years.

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For information media—not an official record

The Board deplored the DPRK's failure to implement essential elements of the IAEA's previous resolutions regarding non-compliance. It called on that country to provide full access to all safeguards-relevant information and locations, under the terms of the Treaty. The Board decided to suspend non-medical Agency assistance to the DPRK and asked the Agency's Director-General to notify the Security Council and the General Assembly of its decision.

* * *

The one month cease-fire agreement signed in Geneva on Wednesday by the Bosnian Government and the Bosnian Serbs took effect in the former Yugoslavia at noon local time today (1100 GMT). The two sides agreed not to initiate any new hostilities, to expediate efforts to achieve a lasting peace, and to release all detained persons. A spokesman for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) described the agreement as an important opportunity to stabilize the military situation and a first step towards a comprehensive cessation of hostilities.

Special Representative, Yasushi Akashi, called on the parties to honour and implement the agreement at this critical time. Yesterday, he met with with officials from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees (UNHCR) and UNPROFOR staff in preparation for the release and mutual exchange of prisoners.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali arrived in Tunis today, where he will attend the Summit of the Heads of State of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on 13 June. He was welcomed by Sadek Fayala, Secretary-of State for Foreign Affairs of Tunisa, and Ibrahima Fall, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General. Speaking to correspondents on Rwanda, the Secretary-General said the Arusha agreement was based on close cooperation between the United Nations and the OAU. He said continued cooperation between the two organizations was needed in order to find a settlement to the grave crisis in that country.

The Secretary-General said he hoped the OAU summit would be a prelude to settling the dispute in Rwanda and in other areas such as Angola and Liberia. He said he was in continuous contact with Lakhdar Brahimi, his Special Envoy and Head of the fact-finding mission to Yemen. He was hopeful, despite the difficulties, that a cease-fire would be reached and a dialogue started between the parties to end the "dangerous crisis." there.

Later today, the Secretary-General met with the Foreign Ministers of Tunisia and Egypt, and the Secretary-General of the OAU. Tomorrow, he will be received by the President of Tunisia, Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali.

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Special Envoy Lakhdar Brahimi left Sana'a, Yemen today for Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, where he will continue his fact-finding mission on the conflict in Yemen. Before leaving Sana'a, Mr. Brahimi had discussions with the speaker of the Parliament Sheikh Abdalla Al-Ahmar and the Chairman of political groups. He reiterated the need for urgent humanitarian assistance especially to Aden, where there have been reports of a serious water shortage and intermittant electricity outages. Following his meeting with Mr. Brahimi yesterday, President Ali Abdalla Saheh ordered the the distribution of food and free medicine in the city.

Earlier today, Mr. Brahimi met with the Ambassadors of the Arab Maghreb Union, including Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Libya as well as the charge D'Affairs of the Russian Federation. Yesterday, he met with the Ambassadors of the Unied States and France.

Representatives of United Nations agencies in Sana'a and government ministeries submitted a first assessment of the country's needs to donor governments yesterday. A team will be sent to Southern Yemen, to determine the number of displaced persons and damage to the infrastructure there.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has condemned the hijacking of an Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS) barge and the seizure of United Nations personnel in Jonglei, Sudan. Three international and eight or nine local staff from the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) were on board the barge, a spokesman for the Organization said today. It was delivering relief supplies to both Government and Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA) controlled areas between Kosti and Juba.

Radio contact with the barge was lost four days ago, but OLS flights have confirmed the location of the barge and that the United Nations staff are being held prisoners, the spokesman said.

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Experts addressing the World Hearings on Development, today made proposals to streamline the Economic and Social Council, reinvent the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and establish a development council. Jan Pronk, Minister for the Development Cooperation of the Netherlands, said the Security Council should have a window to deal with economic matters at the highest political level. At present, countries with economic clout took no notice of the current economic negotiations at the United Nations. The Secretary-General's report, An Agenda for Development, should have addressed the need to reform the United Nations in order to adapt policies to different international settings. He stressed that such reform would make it impossible for Governments to ignore the Organization.

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MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council terminates UNASOG mandate; commends Group's work and notes cooperation by Libya and Chad.

+ Secretary-General warns institutional instability, persistant tensions and unending confrontations in Africa have discouraged Western World; says some tempted to abandon continent to its own fate.

+ Secretary-General in Tunis for OAU summit, meets African Heads of State, ministers before returning to Geneva today.

+ WHO Director-General appeals to leaders at OAU summit to make personal commitment to AIDS control among young; calls for education and information programmes; says promotion of safe sex practices does not encourage promiscuity.

+ Special Envoy Lakhdar Brahimi holds talks with King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia; meets with former Prime-Minister and other politicians in the southern Yemen port of Mucala;

+ As World Hearings on Developmnent conclude, General Assembly President says discussions brought rich palette of ideas and new dimension to United Nations debate on what development means.

+ Armed men open fire in church in Kigali, take 180 people away; UNAMIR sponsors another round of cease-fire talks between RPF and Rwandan Government; UNICEF begins vaccinating refugees at football stadium.

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The Security Council today terminated the mandate of the United Nations Aouzou Strip Observer Group (UNASOG). In resolution 926 (1994) adopted unanimously today, the Council commended the work done by members of the Group. It also noted with appreciation the cooperation extended by Libya and Chad in accordance with the agreement both signed on 4 April. In a report to the Council earlier last week, the Secretary-General said UNASOG had successfully completed the task assigned to it.

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For information media—not an official record

UNASOG was set up by Security Council resolution 915 (1994) to oversee Libya's withdrawal from the Aouzou Strip last month. The Strip which is situated on the border between Libya and Chad had been disputed by the two countries since 1973. In February, the International Court of Justice ruled that the Libyan presence should be withdrawn.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today warned that institutional instability, persistent tension and unending confrontations in Africa have given rise to a discouraging feeling in the Western World. Addressing the opening session of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) summit in Tunis, the Secretary-General said there was a great temptation for some to abandon the continent to its own fate. Since the end of the cold war, developed countries had not shown the same interest in Africa and economic crises in the industrialized world had led to a withdrawal by traditional donors. More than ever, Africa, in the middle of its dramas, had reason for feeling alone.

Although half the United Nations peace-keeping operations were in Africa, nations there were also helping the Organization, the Secretary-General noted. There were 17 African countries participating in those operations and more than 8,500 soldiers or 12 percent of all peace-keeping forces on the continent were from Africa, he said. It was up to international organizations to galvanize opinions, provide the means and ensure the necessary assistance to compensate for weaknesses within the international community. The Secretary-General stressed that it was necessary, now more than ever, for the OAU and the United Nations to unite their efforts to maintain peace and promote economic development in Africa.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali arrived back in Geneva today, after addressing the Organization of African Unity (OAU) summit in Tunis. Before leaving, the Secretary-General met with South African President Nelson Mandela and the Presidents of Guinea, Angola, Uganda and Nigeria.

Yesterday, the Secretary-General held talks with Esmat Abdel Meguid, the Secretary-General of the Arab League. They discussed Special Envoy Lakhdar Brahimi's mission to Yemen, and peace-keeping operations in Somalia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Secretary-General also met with the Presidents of the Congo, Zaire, Algeria, Senegal, the Central African Republic, and Cameroon. He held talks with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, the outgoing OAU President.

Over the weekend, the Secretary-General was received by the President of Tunisia, Zine El Abidine Ben Ali. Mr. Boutros-Ghali and OAU Secretary-General Salim Ahmed Salim reviewed issues before the Summit, particularly those concerning Rwanda, Burundi, Libera and Angola. Major problems confronting Africa which were being dealt with by the OAU and the United Nations were the focus of talks between the Secretary-General and the Prime Minister of Tunisia, Ahmed Karoui. The Secretary-General also met with the President of

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Djibouti and later visited the Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Yasser Arafat. The two men reviewed the Cairo Accord and the Secreatry-General pledged full United Nations support to that process. He noted the Special Coordinator for the occupied territories, Terje Roed Larsen, would be establishing his headquarters in Gaza. Mr. Arafat underlined the importance of improving economic conditions in the territories and expressed his appreciation for United Nations assistance to the Palestinaian Provisional Authority.

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The Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima, has appealed to African leaders to make a personal commitment to help prevent acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) among their young people. African Heads of State were meeting in Tunis today for the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Summit. Dr. Nakajima said education programmes must be as accurate as possible, and respect the values of individuals and families. The promotion of safe sexual behaviour did not encourage promiscuity but fostered respect for one's own body and life, and a better understanding of one's responsibilities towards other people, he stressed. Children must be prepared for adolescence and given the opportunity to go into adulthood without running the risk of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection.

Dr. Nakajima said authorities should ensure that the whole population had access to health services, care and treatment, as well as to condoms and counselling services. Social and economic protection should be given to children and families made destitute as a result of AIDS and national measures should be taken against discrimination. Social isolation and severe poverty reduced young people's ability to practise safe sexual behaviour, he said.

WHO estimates that in sub Saharan Africa almost two out of three infections occur among people under 25 years and are usually contracted through sex. In some places, the infection rate is five times higher among girls than among boys between the ages of 15 and 19, and in certain communities, up to 30 per cent of young adults are infected. In the near future, several million African children will be born with HIV or into families whose human and financial resources have been exhausted by HIV/AIDS.

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Special Envoy and Head of the fact-finding mission to Yemen Lakhdar Brahimi returned to that country on Saturday from Saudi Arabia where he held talks with the King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz and other officials. Yesterday, he met with former Prime-Minister Haider El-Atass and other politicians in the southern port of Mukala.

Meanwhile, Serge Telle from the United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs headed a mission to the southern provinces of Abyan and Sahbwa to

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evaluate damage and losses there. He was accompanied by representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Food Programme (WFP), and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

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Discussions at the World Hearings on Development had provided a rich palette of new ideas and proposals, General Assembly President S.R. Insanally said on Friday. Speaking at the conclusion on the five-day Hearings, he said they had set the stage for a more varied dialogue on what development could mean in a changing world. Bringing in new actors and unofficial views to discuss the Secretary-General's report on "An Agenda for Development" had brought a new dimension to United Nations debates, he added.

Hans Singer, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, United Kingdom, called for a global overview of structural adjustment programmes. Based on the philosophy of retrenchment first and non-inflationary growth later, those programmes led to distortions such as the oversaturation of commodity markets. Governments found it difficult to achieve growth once they had undergone retrenchment by using restrictive measures. Growth programmes must be adopted first, he said.

Charles William Maynes, Editor of the quarterly publication Foreign Policy, called for a more universal approach towards development. Although developing countries were suffering most, the growing problems of poverty and unemployment among the richest states were undermining all political will to attack the problems of world development.

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Armed men forced their way into a church complex in Kigali on Saturday, and opened fire on several hundred people who had taken refuge there, according to a United Nations spokesman. More than a dozen people were killed and 180 others taken away. United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) forces had been unable to reach the complex because of heavy fighting in the area.

In a related development, another round of cease-fire talks between representatives of the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) and the Rwandan Government was held today in Kigali under UNAMIR supervision. However, little progress has been reported so far, the spokesman said.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) began vaccination programmes for the thousands of refugees living in appalling sanitary conditions at the football stadium in Kigali. Although people in the stadium were too frightened to leave, UNAMIR resumed the exchange of displaced persons at a church and at King Faisal Hospital.

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United Nations

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14 June 1994

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Secretary-General urges parties in Yemen to observe cease-fire and settle their dispute peacefully; expresses deep concern at humanitarian situation there.

+ Secretary-General presents 1994 Population Award to President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and the Turkish Family Health and Planning Foundation; says population issues at heart of sustainable development concerns.

+ Fifth Committee approves draft resolutin by which General Assembly would authorize the Secretary-General to commit up to $18.8 million to finance MINURSO for four months.

+ Commission of Experts in report to Security Council finds evidence of grave violations of humanitarian law in former Yugoslavia; says ethnic cleansing appears part of policy by some parties there.

+ UNAMIR blocked from continuing civilian exchanges at Government controlled church compound in Kigali; RPF reports 30 to 40 children massacred at site; Zambia offers battalion of 800 infantry to UNAMIR.

+ President Soeharto of Indonesia calls for international cooperation to empower women at Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Women in Development in Djarkata.

+ WFP launches appeal for $16.7 million to aid 600,00 returnees and displaced persons in Tajikistan.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali today urged the parties in Yemen to observe the cease-fire called for by Security Council resolution 924 (1994) and to resume talks aimed at settling their dispute peacefully. He made the appeal following an interim report by his Special Envoy, Lakhdar Brahimi, who has been on a fact-finding mission to that country.

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For information media—not an official record

The Secretary-General regretted that the cease-fire was still not effective, despite repeated assurances from both sides and said he was deeply concerned with the humanitarian situation in Yemen. Although the fire in the oil reservoirs near Aden had burned out, there were serious water shortages and health facilities in the city were inadequate, according to a United Nations spokesman. Hospitals urgently needed medical supplies and equipment.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in Geneva today presented the 1994 United Nations Population Award to President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and the Turkish Family Health and Planning Foundation. The Secretary-General said that the Award signalled United Nations concern for people's hope for peaceful world in balance with population, environment and development. A concerted approach to sustainable development was the only way to resolve the interrelated issues of population, economic growth, environmental degradation, pressures on resources, and empowerment of women, he stressed.

Citing progress such as the expanding access to reproductive health-care and lower death death rates among young children, the Secretary-General said more had to be done, as some regions and countries still lagged behind. He noted that when people had a choice they opted for smaller famlies and their children had better access to education. Family planning should be available to all women and men as a basic right.

The Secretary-General said this year's Award winners had brought change to their countries. President Mubarak had incorporated family planning and population issues into his country's five-year development plans. He had also expanded compulsory education among girls. As President of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), he had stressed the need for integrating population issues with development concerns. The Turkish Family Health and Planning Foundation had expanded the quality of life of families in its country by increasing the efficacy of family-planning services, especially to underserved populations, such as migrant workers and those living in poverty and isolation. It was a shining example of how the private sector could work with Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to improve people's quality of life, the Secretary-General said.

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The Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) yesterday approved a draft resolution by which the General Assembly would authorize the Secretary-General to commit up to $18,812,800 gross to maintain the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) from 1 April to 31 July.

By that text, the General Assembly would also authorize the Secretary-General to maintain MINURSO at a rate not to exceed $3.4 million gross per month for the period 1 August to 30 September. He would be requested to

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ensure that the Mission was administered efficiently and economically. Member States would be urged to ensure prompt and full payment of their assessed contributions for the Mission.

By another draft resolution the Assembly would request the Secretary-General to clarify the positions of special representatives and envoys appointed on a "when actually employed" basis, on special service agreement, on a $1-a-year honororium or with no renumeration. He would be also requested to submit guidelines on those contractual arrangements, including a set of objective criteria for determining the level of such positions and the form of remuneration. Under other provisions of the text, the Secretary-General would be requested to ensure that the number of special envoys, special representatives and other special high-level positions was kept at a minimum. He would also see that their functions and responsibilities were more clearly defined, and that current financial regulations and budgetary procedures were fully complied with.

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The Commission of Experts set up to examine violations of humanitarian law in the former Yugoslavia has reported that ethnic cleansing, sexual assault and rape appeared to be part of a policy by some parties there. In an accompanying letter to the Security Council, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said he fully supported the Commission's report which was issued yesterday. Its findings would facilitate the task of the International Tribunal.

Reporting evidence of grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions, the Commission said it was shocked at the enormous level of victimization and the brutal and ferocious manner in which the crimes had been committed. The type, range and duration of the violations strongly implied command responsibility by commission and omission, it said. Existing separate military structures and mulitple units may have been intended by some parties to allow senior military and political leaders to argue lack of knowledge and inability to control unlawful acts. However, the loose command and control structure also meant unlawful acts could have been disobeyed without individuals risking personal harm, the Commission stated.

The Commission noted that the victims of humanitarian crimes in the former Yugoslavia expected the truth would be established and that the International Tribunal would provide justice. It stressed that the Tribunal must be given the necessary resources and support to meet those expectations.

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The United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) efforts to evacuate civilians trapped behind confrontation lines in Kigali today were blocked by militia at the Government controlled Sainte Famille Church compound. The normal escort of gendarmes also failed to show up at the site, where nearly 3,000 people, mainly Tutsis, were taking refuge. A spokesman for the Organization said UNAMIR had been unable to confirm reports by the

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Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) that 30 to 40 children had been massacred at the compound. Yesterday, UNAMIR evacuated 400 people from the church as well as 225 mainly Hutus from the King Faisal Hospital, which is controlled by the RPF.

In a related development, Zambia has offered a battalion of 800 infantry to UNAMIR. However, as with a number of other troop offers, the infantry lacked equipment, the spokesman said. The United States contract for 50 armoured personnel carriers would be finalized today and the United Nations was considering bringing in personnel carriers from Somalia to help bridge the gap before delivery of the United States equipment.

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President Soeharto of Indonesia has called for international cooperation to empower women as equal partners with men, both as citizens and human resources for development. Mr. Soeharto was inaugurating the ministerial segment of the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Women in Development in Djarkata yesterday. He said solidarity, partnersip and harmony between men and women should be used to enhance women's role and position both in the family and society. Organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Conference is expected to adopt a declaration and regional plan of action in preparation for the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing.

In a message to the Conference, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said that women in many countries had made important gains in education, health, and employment. However, disparities between males and females persisted in crucial areas, including equal representation before the law and in decision-making. Much needed to be done before the objectives of the 1985 Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies of equality, development and peace could be achieved, he said.

Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP, Rafeeuddin Ahmed stressed that political will was now needed to promote development in which women's pivotal role in the economy and society was recognized and given true value.

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The World Food Programme (WFP) yesterday launched an appeal for $16.7 million to aid some 600,00 returnees and displaced persons in Tajikistan. The WFP - the largest food aid organization in the world -- will provide them with nearly 39,000 metric tons of food between now and next March.

Tajikistan whose economy is primarily agricultural is the poorest and least developed of the former Soviet republics. Last year's harvest was poor and severe floods and land-slides caused extensive damage to the country's physical infrastructure, exacerbating the already devastating effects of civil strife. The Government will import 700,000 tonnes of cereals to make up for this year's poor harvest, but credit and food aid will be needed to cover the shortfall.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

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WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council extends UNFICYP mandate until 31 December; stresses urgent need to implement confidence-building measures; will review United Nations role and progress towards political settlement in Cyprus.

+ IAEA receives DPRK's letter of withdrawal effective immediately; United States Ambassador Madeleine Albright describes DPRK's activities as exceptionally serious; says sanctions viewed as tool to try and correct DPRK's actions.

+ Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Women in Development adopts "Jakarta Declaration for the Advancement of Women"; calls for measures against abuse and trafficking of women and female children.

+ Heavy fighting continues in Kigali, with RPF reported in control of interim Government complex in Giterama; Special Human Rights Rapporteur and Rapporteur on Torture travelling to capital.

+ Special Committee against Apartheid in draft report to General Assembly says it has completed its work; recommends appointment of high-level coordinator for United Nations development activities in South Africa

+ Second round of inter-Tajik talks between the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition to start in Teheran on 18 June; will aim to reach agreement on the cessation of hostilities between parties.

+ UNESCO to hold seminar on Palestinian trade and investment needs in Paris beginning 20 June; will focus on efforts to build a new Palestinian economy.

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The Security Council today extended the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) until 31 December 1994. In unanimously adopting resolution 927 (1994), the Council stressed the need to

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implement a package of confidence building measures relating to the fenced area of Varosha and Nicosia International Airport. It urged all parties to commit to a significant reduction in the number of foreign troops on the island and to reduce defence spending there in order to help restore confidence between the parties. It also urged community leaders to promote tolerence and reconciliation between their people.

The Council called on military authorities on both sides to cooperate with UNFICYP and ensure no incidents occured along the buffer zone. It called on them to begin discussions with UNFICYP aimed at prohibiting along the cease-fire line, the use of live ammunition and weapons -- other than those which are hand-held -- and the firing of weapons within sight and sound of the buffer zone. It also called on them to cooperate with UNFICYP in extending the 1989 unmanning agreement to cover all areas of the zone where the two sides were in close proximity.

The Council stressed that it would conduct a thorough review of the United Nations role in Cyprus and progress towards a political settlement there. It said it would consider a set of options presented by the Secretary-General and it asked him to review the Force's structure and strength, with a view to its possible restructuring.

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The United States, as depository for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Treaty has received a letter from the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea (DPRK) announcing its withdrawal from the Agency. A United Nations spokesman said that the letter had been transmitted to the Director-General of the IAEA in Vienna and the DPRK's withdrawal would be effective immediately.

Meanwhile, United States Ambassador Madeleine Albright told United Nations correspondents at Headquarters today that a new stage had been reached as far as the situation in the DPRK was concerned. For some time, the United States and other countries had viewed what was going on in the DPRK as execptionally serious and had been talking about sanctions, she said. Sanctions were not viewed as an end in themselves, but as a tool whereby the international community shows the DPRK that it needs to adjust its behaviour.

Ambassador Albright said the aim of sanctions was to get the DPRK to take some corrective action about what they have been doing in the past and also to warn them about not taking certain actions in the future. She said the sanctions resolution being considered would be a phased one and was carefully calibrated.

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The Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Women in Development concluded in Jarkata yesterday with the adoption of a Declaration and Plan of Action to promote the advancement of women in the Asian and Pacific region. The Plan of Action will serve as the region's contribution to

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the Fourth World Conference on Women to be held in Beijing next year. Known as the "Jakarta Declaration for the Advancement of Women", it states that women should have equal rights to obligations and opportunities with men in all fields and at all levels of development.

The Declaration, which was drafted by a meeting of senior government officials, covers a range of issues such as women and work, child prostitution and the effect on women of economic reforms in economies of transition It calls on countries to take effective measures against the exploitation and abuse of young women including abduction, rape, incest and trafficking both within and outside their borders.

Several representatives from Asian and Pacific countries, which have the largest proportion of women in the world, expressed concern about the growing feminisation of poverty - a factor which has driven countless women into low status, low-paying jobs and even organized prostitution.

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Despite the announcement of a cease-fire agreement in Rwanda at the Organization of African Unity (OAU) summit, heavy shelling continued in Kigali today, a spokesman for the Organization said. The headquarters of the United Nations Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) was hit by small arms fire. There were also reports that the city of Giterama had been captured by the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) and there were large numbers of civilian casualties. The complex recently occupied by the interim Government had been abandoned and ransacked.

In a related development, the Special Rapporteur for Human Rights for Rwanda and the Special Rapporteur on Torture will leave Nairobi for Kigali tomorrow. They will be accompanied by staff members from the Centre for Human Rights and the UNAMIR Force Commander Romeo Daillaire. The Special Rappporteur on Summary and Arbitrary Executions and one staff member from the Centre will continue to investigate the human rights of Rwandan refugees in neighbouring countries.

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The Special Committee against Apartheid reported yesterday that it had fulfilled its mandate and successfully concluded its work. In a draft report to the General Assembly, the Committee said the system of apartheid had been brought to an end. It also recommended that the Assembly appoint a high-level coordinator for all United Nations development activities in South Africa for the next five years, to coincide with the tenure of the Government of National Unity. The action was taken at the final open meeting of the Committee, which was established in 1962 to review all aspects of South Africa's apartheid policies and their international repercussions.

The report stressed that South Africans of all races had benefited from the events in their country. The United Nations, the Special Committee and the international community could be proud of their efforts to end apartheid,

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as well as their support for all South Africans who had struggled against it, the Committee said.

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A second round of inter-Tajik talks between the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition will start in Teheran on 18 June. The main objective of the talks will be an agreement on the cessation of hostilities, which would confirm that a viable political process of national reconciliation had been launched in Tajikistan. The Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Tajikistan, Ambassador Ramiro Piriz-Ballon, will again chair the negotiations. Representatives of Afghanistan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Uzbekistan and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) will attend the talks as observers.

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The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) will hold a seminar on Palestinian trade and investment needs at its Paris headquarters, beginning 20 June. The three-day seminar will focus on efforts to build a new Palestinian economy in the light of the Declaration of Principles and subsequent agreements signed by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). It will also analyse relevant provisions of the status of multilateral negotiations, Palestinian bilateral economic relations, and the role of international assistance.

Organized by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, the Seminar will be attended by Representatives from UNESCO, the United Nations, Palestine and the Palestinian Rights Committee, as well as donor countries and non-governmental organizations.

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